IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants:	Jason Wilcox et al.	Attorney Docket No:	MICR0216
Serial No:	09/596,195	Group Art Unit:	3622
Filed:	June 17, 2000	Examiner:	Duran, Arthur D.
Title:	INVENTORY MANAGEMENT		

AMENDMENT TRANSMITTAL LETTER

Bellevue, Washington 98004

December 11, 2002

TO THE DIRECTOR OF THE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE:

Transmitted herewith is an amendment in the above-identified patent application. No additional claim fee is required, as shown below. Please charge any additional fees or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 01-1940. A copy of this sheet is enclosed.

Computation of Fee For Claims as Amended					
	Claims Remaining after Amendment	Highest Number Previously Paid For	Present Extra	Rate	Additional Fee
Total Claims	17	20	-0-	x $18	-0-
Independent Claims	3	3	-0-	x $84	-0-
TOTAL ADDITIONAL FEE FOR THIS AMENDMENT					-0-

Respectfully submitted,

Ron Anderson

Ronald M. Anderson
Registration No. 28,829

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service in a sealed envelope as first class mail with postage thereon fully prepaid addressed to: Director of Patents and Trademarks, Arlington, VA 22202, on December 11, 2002.

Date: December 11, 2002

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Title: INVENTORY MANAGEMENT

AMENDMENT AND REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION

Bellevue, Washington 98004

December 11, 2002

TO THE DIRECTOR OF THE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE:

In response to the Office Action dated October 31, 2002, applicants request that the above-identified application be amended as set forth below and that the Examiner reconsider the application in view of these amendments and the Remarks that follow. A clean version of the amendments is shown below. A marked-up copy of the amendments follows this response and is entitled MARKED-UP VERSION OF THE AMENDMENTS.

CLEAN VERSION OF THE AMENDMENTS

Amendment to the Claims

In the Claims:

Please amend Claim 1 as follows:

1. (Amended) A computer-implemented method comprising:

constructing a plurality of item slot groups, each group having a predefined number of item slots, each item slot initially unfilled and able to be filled by an item;

allocating each of a plurality of items of a first type to the item slots of the item slot groups that are unfilled by matching characteristics of the first type of items to characteristics of the item slot groups, such that allocating an item to an item slot fills the item slot with the item;

allocating each of a plurality of items of a second type to the item slots of the item slot groups that are unfilled by matching characteristics of the second type of items to the characteristics of the item slot groups, such that allocating an item to an item slot fills the item slot with the item; and

displaying the plurality of item slot groups as a histogram having a plurality of bars, where each bar corresponds to an item slot group and has a height corresponding to the number of item slots of the item slot group, wherein the bar has an indication as to how many of the number of item slots of the item slot group are filled and how many of the number of item slots of the item slot group are unfilled.

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